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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/784,051	02/16/2001	Kazunori Tanaka	Q62945	2539

7590

07/26/2002

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037

EXAMINER

PHAM, LEDA T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/784,051

Applicant(s)

TANAKA ET AL.

Examiner

Leda T. Pham

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 – 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Adachi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,682,070)

Adachi teaches a vehicle-onboard AC generator (figure 20) comprising a stator (figure 1) having a stator core (51) and a stator winding assembly (52) including a plurality of stator windings, a rotor disposed in a state enclosed by said stator core (figure 20); and a rectifier device (figure 5) for rectifying an AC power taken out from said stator winding assembly, wherein in said stator, a plurality of outgoing conductors forming output conductor end portions and connecting conductor end portions (53, 54), respectively, are brought out substantially in parallel with a center axis of said stator core,

wherein said connecting conductor end portions are connected to an intermediate connecting member (175g) provided independently from said rectifier device and disposed on said stator at a position offset laterally from the center axis thereof, said stator windings being interconnected in a predetermined connection pattern through the medium of said intermediate connecting member, and wherein said output conductor end portions through which said AC power is taken out are connected to said rectifier device.

Referring to claim 2, Adachi teaches in figure 7 the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said connecting conductor end portions also form a neutral point output conductor which is connected to said rectifier device.

Referring to claim 3, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said intermediate connecting member is implemented as a wiring terminal member which is formed of a same copper series metal as a wiring conductor (column 9, lines 20 – 25).

Referring to claim 4, column 8 lines 62 – 65 Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said wiring terminal member (171) is molded.

Referring to claim 5, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said wiring terminal member (171) is secured fittingly in a circuit board on which at least said rectifier device is implemented (figure 4).

Referring to claim 6, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said wiring terminal member (171) is welded to an insert terminal member (172 – 175) in advance to be subsequently molded (figure 2 – 3).

Referring to claim 7, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said wiring terminal member is made of a a metal plate undergone a surface treatment.

Referring to claim 8, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said wiring terminal member is made of a bare copper wire (column 9, line 11-15).

Referring to claim 9, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said wiring terminal member is implemented in a structure having an L-shaped cross-section (figure 11).

Referring to claim 10, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said connecting conductor end portions are provided with round terminals, respectively, and wherein connection of said connecting conductor end portions with said intermediate connecting member is realized by means of screws (figure 5).

Referring to claim 11, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein said output conductor end portions are provided with round terminals, respectively, and wherein connection of said output conductor end portions to said rectifier device is realized by means of screws (figure 5, figure 9).

Referring to claim 12, Adachi teaches the vehicle-onboard AC generator wherein each connecting portion of said intermediate connecting member for connection with said connecting conductor end portions is implemented in the form of a U-like segment, and wherein said connecting conductor end portion is fixedly secured to said U-like segment through press fitting (figure 5, figure 6).

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leda T. Pham whose telephone number is (703) 305-4864. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-5:00) first Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-9176 for regular communications and (703) 305-1341 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-3431.

Leda T. Pham
Examiner
Art Unit 2834

LTP
July 24, 2002



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